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Equal Employment Opportunity Monthly Bulletin



"Promoting EEO, Diversity, and Education"

April 2023



♦ Days of Remembrance & Holocaust Remembrance Day

♦ The Holocaust

♦ Anti-Harassment No FEAR Training (FY23)



Days of Remembrance

US Congress established Days of Remembrance Public Law 96-388 [H.R. 8081] on Oct. 7, 1980 as the nation's annual commemoration of the Holocaust. The Holocaust was the systematic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of six million European Jews by the Nazi German regime and its allies and collaborators. The Holocaust profoundly affected countries in which Nazi crimes were perpetrated, with universal implications and consequences in many other parts of the world. The Holocaust was an evolving process that took place throughout Europe between 1933 and 1945. The word "holocaust," comes from the Greek words "holos" (whole) and "kaustos" (burned), was historically used to describe a sacrificial offering burned on an altar.

Holocaust Remembrance Day

In 2005, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution that declared January 27, the liberation date of Auschwitz Concentration Camp, to be an international day of remembrance for victims of the Holocaust.

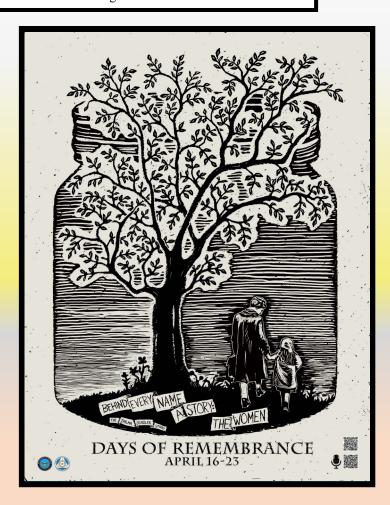
Each year since 2010, the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO) and have designated specific themes for the annual commemoration.

The theme "Home and Belonging" guides United Nations Holocaust remembrance and education in 2023.

Home and Belonging highlights the humanity of the Holocaust victims and survivors, who had their home and sense of belonging ripped from them by the perpetrators of the Holocaust.

The violence of exclusion began with disinformation and hate speech that lent support to systemic injustice, discrimination and marginalization and ended with genocidal killing. The theme reminds us of our responsibility to respond with humanity to the victims of atrocity crimes, to counter hate speech, antisemitism, Holocaust distortion and denial, and prejudice to do all we can to prevent genocide.

We consider those who survived by hiding and the impact of this experience on their sense of "home". This year's theme is about the ways in which survivors in concentration camps, and the children born in these camps, navigated the post-War world.



The Holocaust

In 1933, the Jewish population of Europe stood at over nine million. Most European Jews lived in countries that Nazi Germany would occupy or influence during World War II. By 1945, the Germans and their collaborators killed nearly two out of every three European Jews as part of the "Final Solution," the Nazi policy to murder the Jews of Europe.

Although Jews, whom the Nazis deemed a priority danger to Germany, were the primary victims of Nazi racism, other victims included some 200,000 Roma (Gypsies). At least 200,000 mentally or physically disabled patients, mainly Germans, living in institutional settings, were murdered in the so-called Euthanasia Program. The Euthanasia Program commenced officially in September 1939 and consisted of the systematic killing of mentally-ill and physically disabled by gassing, injection, drug overdose and starvation. Selected patients were sent to one of six gassing installations established as part of the "Euthanasia" Program at these locations, Bernburg, Brandenburg, Grafeneck, Hadamar, Hartheim, and Sonnenstein.

The Nazis established six extermination camps called Chelmno, Belzec, Sobibor, Treblinka, Auschwitz-Birkenau (part of the Auschwitz complex), and Majdanek. Victims at Chelmno were killed in gas vans (hermetically sealed trucks with engine exhaust diverted to the interior compartment). The Belzec, Sobibor, and Treblinka camps use carbon monoxide gas generated by stationary engines attached to gas chambers. Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest of the killing centers, has four large gas chambers using Zyklon B (crystalline hydrogen cyanide) as the killing agent. The gas chambers at Majdanek use both carbon monoxide and Zyklon B. Millions of Jews were killed in the gas chambers in the killing centers as part of the "Final Solution."

In the final months of the war, Schutzstaffel (SS) guards moved camp inmates by train or on forced marches, often called "death marches," in an attempt to prevent the Allied liberation of large numbers of prisoners. Millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political rebels, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi Germany.

As Allied forces moved across Europe in a series of offensives against Germany, they began to encounter and liberate concentration camp prisoners, as well as prisoners en route by forced march from one camp to another. The marches continued until May 7, 1945, the day the German armed forces surrendered unconditionally to the Allies.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

A living memorial to the Holocaust, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum inspires citizens and leaders worldwide to confront hatred, prevent genocide, and promote human dignity. Its far-reaching educational programs and global impact are made possible by generous donors.

In accordance with its congressional mandate, the Museum is responsible for leading the nation in commemorating Days of Remembrance and for encouraging appropriate observances throughout the United States.

What is anti-Semitism?

The term *anti-Semitism* was coined in 1879 by the German agitator Wilhelm Marr to designate the anti-Jewish campaigns underway in central Europe at that time.

anti-Semitism meaning is hostility towards or discrimination against Jews as a religious or racial group. Nazi anti-Semitism, which culminated in the Holocaust, had a racist dimension in that it targeted Jews because of their supposed biological characteristics.

Holocaust Days of Remembrance in History

For more information click the hyperlinks.

DEOMI Special Observances - (Days of Remembrance) Jewish American Heritage Month American Jewish Historical Society

US Holocaust Memorial Museum 2023 First person with Holocaust Survivor Agi Geva US Holocaust Behind Every Name Animated Video Series

Historical Origins of the Jewish Badge History The Holocaust National Museum of American Jewish Military History

EEOC What is the No FEAR Act? EEOC Prohibited Employment Policies/Practices Global Holocaust Education Program

Anti-Harassment No FEAR Training FY(23)

Go to https://www.atrrs.army.mil

Click on the course catalog icon and enter course title "EEO-203A" Non-supervisors or "EEO-203B" for Supervisors.

Follow the instructions to register for the training. Your application may take 24 hours to process and you will receive another email with instructions for completing the course through ALMS. This training is mandatory for all Federal civilian employees and their supervisors. The completion suspense is 30 SEP 2023.

For assistance please contact Mr. Timothy Gladders, EEO Specialist, at 803-751-5443 or timothy.b.gladders.civ@army.mil